

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: MBFR: GUIDANCE ON MEASURES FOR FLANKS, POST-
REDUCTION CEILING, AND SECTIONS IV AND V

REF: A. USNATO 4673 B. STATE 196124 C. USNATO 4663

D. USNATO 4656 E. USNATO 4655 F. USNATO 4624

G. USNATO 4600 H. USNATO 4551

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE KEYED TO NUMBERED PARAS REFS G AND
H.

2. MEASURES FOR FLANKS. WE ENDORSE FORMULATION SUGGESTED
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BY AMBASSADORS RUMSFELD AND ERALP AND REVISION OF LEAD-IN

PARAGRAPH TO PARAGRAPH 30 AS GIVEN PARA 2 REF E. REF B GUIDANCE ALSO CONTINUES TO APPLY. IF SUGGESTED ADDITION OF PHRASE "AND THE NEED TO RESPOND TO PROPOSALS FROM THE OTHER SIDE" IS ACCEPTABLE, IN ADDITION TO POINTS ENVISAGED PER REF B YOU SHOULD IN NAC STATEMENT POINT OUT OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT ADDITION OF THIS PHRASE DOES NOT REPEAT NOT IMPLY THAT ALLIES WILL AUTOMATICALLY RESPOND TO PROPOSALS BY OTHER SIDE WITH COUNTERPROPOSALS SUCH AS THOSE LISTED IN PARA 30.

3. POST-REDUCTION CEILING. YOU MAY ACCEPT BELGIAN-DUTCH SENTENCE AMENDED TO READ "SUBSEQUENT TO THE SECOND PHASE, THE OVERALL COMMON CEILING SHOULD BE RESPECTED BY EACH SIDE, WITH NO SUBCEILINGS OTHER THAN THOSE RESPECTIVELY AFFECTING THE US AND SOVIET FORCES WITHIN THE COMMON CEILING", AS SEPARATE SECTION ENTITLED "POST-REDUCTION CEILING" AT END OF SECTION II, IN RETURN FOR DELETION OF LANGUAGE PROPOSED BY OTHERS FOR PARAS 34-36. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT WE PREFER "SHOULD" VICE "WOULD" BECAUSE "WOULD" IS INCONSISTENT WITH AGREED DEFINITION OF SECTION II AS NEGOTIATING AIMS.

4. PARA 58 (I)(B), FIRST SENTENCE ON ESTABLISHED RIGHT OF EITHER SIDE TO CONVENE PLENARIES AND THIRD SENTENCE ON EASTERN AGREEMENT TO AMEND AGREED PROCEDURES. IN OUR VIEW, ALLIES WILL WISH EARLY IN NEGOTIATIONS TO CONFIRM WITH THE EAST THE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING WHICH EMERGED DURING PREPARATORY TALKS THAT EITHER SIDE HAS RIGHT TO CONVENE PLENARY AT ANY TIME, BUT IT WILL NOT BE NECESSARY TO CONFIRM THIS UNDERSTANDING IN WRITING, AND TO SEEK TO DO SO COULD PROVOKE GENERAL EAST-WEST DEBATE ON PROCEDURES AND REOPENING OF PROCEDURES AGREED EARLIER WHICH WE BELIEVE ALLIES SHOULD AVOID IF POSSIBLE. IF THIS POINT IS UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED BY ALLIES, WE COULD ACCEPT DELETION OF BRACKETED THIRD SENTENCE.

5. PARA 58(I)(B), SECOND SENTENCE ON RIGHT OF ALLIES TO PROPOSE PLENARIES. YOU SHOULD REITERATE PREFERENCE FOR FIRST ALTERNATIVE AS AMENDED BY ITALIAN SUGGESTION TO READ "WHENEVER ANY THREE ALLIED PARTICIPANTS PROPOSE",

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BUT YOU MAY ACCEPT CANADIAN FORMULATION IF ALLIES PREFER.

6. PARAS 63 AND 68(II), ON ROLE OF COUNCIL AND REFERRAL OF UNAGREED AHG QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL. WE CAN ACCEPT NEW PARA 63 PROPOSED BY SIZOO IF EXISTING BRACKETS ON PARA 68 (II) ARE DROPPED, AND YOU MAY ALSO ACCEPT REPLACEMENT OF "NORMALLY" WITH "PREFERABLY" IN PARA 68(II). RE PROPOSAL TO REPLACE "MAY" WITH "SHOULD", SO THAT THIRD

SENTENCE OF PARA 68(II) WOULD READ "IN MAJOR MATTERS WHERE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION CANNOT EASILY BE RESOLVED, NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OTHER SIDE ON THIS TOPIC SHOULD BE SUSPENDED, PREFERABLY FOR NO MORE THAN A WEEK," YOU SHOULD CONSULT WITH OTHER DELS, ESPECIALLY UK, TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THEY SHARE OUR CONCERN THAT PROVISION MIGHT RESULT IN REPEATED SUSPENSIONS OF NEGOTIATIONS SIGNALLING INTRA-ALLIED DIVISIONS IN A WAY WHICH COULD BE EXPLOITED BY EAST, AND REPORT RESULTS.

7. PARA 67, SECOND SENTENCE ON DATES OF AHG REPORTS TO COUNCIL. YOU SHOULD PRESS FOR COUNCIL DECISION ON FIXED DATE FOR SUCH REPORTS AS APPROPRIATE, (E.G. TO COVER CONTINGENCY, OF THERE BEING NO NEED FOR SUCH A MEETING ON OCCASION) ON GROUND THAT REGULARITY OF MEETINGS WILL ASSIST IN FORWARD PLANNING BY BOTH COUNCIL AND AHG AND AVOID INDIVIDUAL NEGOTIATION OF DATE FOR EACH REPORT. PORTER

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